

1
2
3
4
5
6
7
8
9
10
11
12
13
14
15
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24
25

BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION
STATE OF MISSOURI

TRANSCRIPT OF PROCEEDINGS

PREHEARING CONFERENCE

In the Matter of an)
Investigation into Spire)
Missouri, Inc., d/b/a Spire) File No. GS-2024-0137
Concerning a Natural Gas)
Incident in Holt, Missouri)

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 11, 2025
12:00 p.m.

Jefferson City, MO
GOB Room 305 and via WebEx

VOLUME 1

RON PRIDGIN, Presiding
DEPUTY CHIEF
REGULATORY LAW JUDGE

TRANSCRIBED BY: MELISSA EICKEN

1 LAW JUDGE PRIDGIN: -- from anyone before I
2 proceeding.

3 MR. DANDAMUDI: Not from Spire, Judge.

4 MR. STACEY: This is Scott Stacey with the
5 staff counsel's office. Nothing from staff. I don't
6 think we're waiting on anybody.

7 LAW JUDGE PRIDGIN: Okay. Very good.
8 Thank you. Like I said, I will be briefly -- we don't
9 have a court reporter, but this is -- this could be
10 recorded and transcribed, if anybody wants a
11 transcript of this conference.

12 I do want to kind of keep this informal and
13 quick since we don't have a -- a court reporter. I
14 will show that -- that counsel for Spire and staff
15 have attended this -- this prehearing conference.

16 Without reading Judge Fewell's mind, I
17 didn't speak to him today, and again, he's out sick.
18 My guess is, he scheduled this conference to get the
19 parties together to see if they can resolve their
20 differences on -- I think it's one of the conditions
21 that staff proposed in their report that the company
22 objects to, and this is an opportunity for the parties
23 to get together, and hopefully, resolve their
24 differences, and if not, let the Commission know how
25 they wish to proceed, if you -- if you want to go to

1 hearing or if you want the Commission to simply rule
2 on the pleadings or -- or some other method of trying
3 to get this case moving forward.

4 And again, I -- and I think I will leave it
5 to Judge Fewell to issue an order on -- on some sort
6 of deadline. I'm a little reluctant to step in and
7 take over his case since he's just out for the day.
8 But my guess is, he's going to want to hear something
9 from the parties probably in the next week or two just
10 to kind of give us an idea -- if only a status report,
11 to give us an idea on -- on where you think this case
12 is going. Is there -- is there anything I can do for
13 the parties? Does anyone have any questions or any
14 comments?

15 MR. DANDAMUDI: Actually, Judge, Scott
16 Stacey and I have briefly spoken about this last
17 Thursday, and then I e-mailed him something yesterday
18 for staff's consideration, so.

19 Scott, did -- did you have a chance to
20 share that with your client, and is that something we
21 can discuss right now?

22 MR. STACEY: I spoke with staff briefly
23 about it, and we're okay with submitting a -- asking
24 for a legal opinion over to the board, but we also
25 would like for information involving the actual

1 incident be submitted as well along with that -- your
2 question that you wanted to ask the -- the
3 professional board of engineering; is that what you're
4 talking about?

5 MR. DANDAMUDI: Yes. So you're good
6 with -- are you guys good with our two questions, but
7 you wanted to just provide some kind of background
8 information as well; is that what you're saying?

9 MR. STACEY: Yeah. To answer the question
10 that staff wanted answered, because it's really the
11 jurisdiction of the board of -- or board of
12 engineering that will assess whether there was a
13 violation of engineering issues.

14 MR. DANDAMUDI: Okay. Yeah. If you want
15 to tweak the -- tweak those questions a little bit, I
16 think it's really only the first question that you
17 need to tweak, but. If you want to tweak that and get
18 it back to me, then I can look at what Spire's staff
19 has to -- their input on that as well and get back to
20 you, but does that sound reasonable?

21 MR. STACEY: That sounds reasonable.

22 MR. DANDAMUDI: Judge, I think we're close
23 to agreement on this. It's just a matter of time.

24 LAW JUDGE PRIDGIN: Very good. I -- I
25 appreciate it, counsel. Like I said, I -- I don't

1 want to speak for -- for Judge Fewell, but I will let
2 him know what happened in this conference, and -- and
3 I'm sure he'll issue some sort of order later in the
4 week asking for some sort of update, and I -- I don't
5 want to -- I don't want to get in the way of the case
6 moving forward, but I don't want to -- I don't want to
7 rush anybody, if I were to tell him that -- maybe the
8 parties might file something in the next couple of
9 weeks or so; is that -- is that too much -- is that
10 enough time or do you need more time?

11 MR. DANDAMUDI: Scott, what do you think?

12 MR. STACEY: That sounds reasonable to me,
13 Judge.

14 MR. DANDAMUDI: Okay. Sounds good.

15 LAW JUDGE PRIDGIN: Okay. If you'll --
16 obviously, if you'll keep your eyes out for some sort
17 of order on this case, and -- and -- and probably
18 expect to file something, if -- even if it's only just
19 a status report or an update, maybe in the next couple
20 of weeks or so. And I appreciate your getting
21 together and -- and talking this through already
22 and -- at least, hopefully, you're close to an
23 agreement on this issue. I appreciate it very much.
24 Is there anything else I can do for the parties for
25 this -- for this conference?

1 MR. STACEY: Not from staff at this point,
2 Judge.

3 MR. DANDAMUDI: Not from Spire.

4 LAW JUDGE PRIDGIN: All right. Very good.
5 Thank you. I'm going to drop off in case -- if you
6 still want to talk, I think the Webex will remain
7 open. If not, obviously, I'm sure you can figure out
8 a way to continue to communicate, but if there's
9 nothing further that the parties need from me, I'm
10 going to drop off of this conference and wish you all
11 a good afternoon.

12 MR. STACEY: All right. Thank you, Judge.

13 MR. DANDAMUDI: Thank you.

14 LAW JUDGE PRIDGIN: Thank you very much,
15 counsel.

16 MR. STACEY: Hey, Sreenu?

17 MR. DANDAMUDI: Yeah.

18 MR. STACEY: I'll go ahead and tweak that
19 information, and I'll get it back to you.

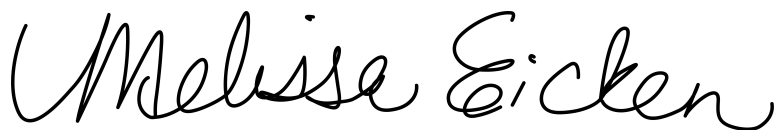
20 MR. DANDAMUDI: Okay. Great. Hey,
21 thank --

22 (Audio ended.)
23
24
25

1 CERTIFICATE OF REPORTER

2
3 I, Melissa J. Eicken, Certified Court
4 Reporter of Missouri, Certified Shorthand Reporter of
5 Illinois and Registered Professional Reporter, do
6 hereby certify that I was asked to prepare a
7 transcript of proceedings had in the above-mentioned
8 case, which proceedings were held with no court
9 reporter present utilizing an open microphone system
10 of preserving the record.

11 I further certify that the foregoing pages
12 constitute a true and accurate reproduction of the
13 proceedings as transcribed by me to the best of my
14 ability and may include inaudible sections or
15 misidentified speakers of said open microphone
16 recording.

17 

18
19 Melissa J. Eicken, CCR, CSR, RPR

20
21
22
23
24 Date: 02/18/25
25

A	<p>counsel 2:14 4:25 6:15</p> <p>counsel's 2:5</p> <p>couple 5:8,19</p> <p>court 2:9,13</p>	<p>good 2:7 4:5,6,24 5:14 6:4,11</p> <p>Great 6:20</p> <p>guess 2:18 3:8</p> <p>guys 4:6</p>	L
<p>actual 3:25</p> <p>afternoon 6:11</p> <p>agreement 4:23 5:23</p> <p>ahead 6:18</p> <p>assess 4:12</p> <p>attended 2:15</p> <p>audio 6:22</p>	D	H	<p>LAW 2:1,7 4:24 5:15 6:4,14</p> <p>leave 3:4</p> <p>legal 3:24</p>
B	<p>DANDAMUDI 2:3 3:15 4:5,14,22 5:11,14 6:3,13,17, 20</p> <p>day 3:7</p> <p>deadline 3:6</p> <p>differences 2:20, 24</p> <p>discuss 3:21</p> <p>drop 6:5,10</p>	<p>happened 5:2</p> <p>he'll 5:3</p> <p>hear 3:8</p> <p>hearing 3:1</p> <p>Hey 6:16,20</p>	M
<p>back 4:18,19 6:19</p> <p>background 4:7</p> <p>bit 4:15</p> <p>board 3:24 4:3,11</p> <p>briefly 2:8 3:16,22</p>	E	I	<p>matter 4:23</p> <p>method 3:2</p> <p>mind 2:16</p> <p>moving 3:3 5:6</p>
C	<p>e-mailed 3:17</p> <p>ended 6:22</p> <p>engineering 4:3, 12,13</p> <p>expect 5:18</p> <p>eyes 5:16</p>	<p>idea 3:10,11</p> <p>incident 4:1</p> <p>informal 2:12</p> <p>information 3:25 4:8 6:19</p> <p>input 4:19</p> <p>involving 3:25</p> <p>issue 3:5 5:3,23</p> <p>issues 4:13</p>	O
<p>case 3:3,7,11 5:5, 17 6:5</p> <p>chance 3:19</p> <p>client 3:20</p> <p>close 4:22 5:22</p> <p>comments 3:14</p> <p>Commission 2:24 3:1</p> <p>communicate 6:8</p> <p>company 2:21</p> <p>conditions 2:20</p> <p>conference 2:11, 15,18 5:2,25 6:10</p> <p>consideration 3:18</p> <p>continue 6:8</p>	F	J	<p>objects 2:22</p> <p>office 2:5</p> <p>open 6:7</p> <p>opinion 3:24</p> <p>opportunity 2:22</p> <p>order 3:5 5:3,17</p>
	<p>Fewell 3:5 5:1</p> <p>Fewell's 2:16</p> <p>figure 6:7</p> <p>file 5:8,18</p> <p>forward 3:3 5:6</p>	<p>Judge 2:1,3,7,16 3:5,15 4:22,24 5:1,13,15 6:2,4, 12,14</p> <p>jurisdiction 4:11</p>	P
	G	K	<p>parties 2:19,22 3:9,13 5:8,24 6:9</p> <p>pleadings 3:2</p> <p>point 6:1</p> <p>prehearing 2:15</p> <p>PRIDGIN 2:1,7 4:24 5:15 6:4,14</p> <p>proceed 2:25</p> <p>proceeding 2:2</p> <p>professional 4:3</p> <p>proposed 2:21</p> <p>provide 4:7</p>
	<p>give 3:10,11</p>	<p>kind 2:12 3:10 4:7</p>	

<hr/> <p style="text-align: center;">Q</p> <hr/> <p>question 4:2,9,16 questions 3:13 4:6,15 quick 2:13</p> <hr/> <p style="text-align: center;">R</p> <hr/> <p>reading 2:16 reasonable 4:20, 21 5:12 recorded 2:10 reluctant 3:6 remain 6:6 report 2:21 3:10 5:19 reporter 2:9,13 resolve 2:19,23 rule 3:1 rush 5:7</p> <hr/> <p style="text-align: center;">S</p> <hr/> <p>scheduled 2:18 Scott 2:4 3:15,19 5:11 share 3:20 show 2:14 sick 2:17 simply 3:1 sort 3:5 5:3,4,16 sound 4:20 sounds 4:21 5:12, 14 speak 2:17 5:1 Spire 2:3,14 6:3</p>	<p>Spire's 4:18 spoke 3:22 spoken 3:16 Sreenu 6:16 Stacey 2:4 3:16,22 4:9,21 5:12 6:1, 12,16,18 staff 2:5,14,21 3:22 4:10,18 6:1 staff's 3:18 status 3:10 5:19 step 3:6 submitted 4:1 submitting 3:23</p> <hr/> <p style="text-align: center;">T</p> <hr/> <p>talk 6:6 talking 4:4 5:21 Thursday 3:17 time 4:23 5:10 today 2:17 transcribed 2:10 transcript 2:11 tweak 4:15,17 6:18</p> <hr/> <p style="text-align: center;">U</p> <hr/> <p>update 5:4,19</p> <hr/> <p style="text-align: center;">V</p> <hr/> <p>violation 4:13</p> <hr/> <p style="text-align: center;">W</p> <hr/> <p>waiting 2:6</p>	<p>wanted 4:2,7,10 Webex 6:6 week 3:9 5:4 weeks 5:9,20</p> <hr/> <p style="text-align: center;">Y</p> <hr/> <p>yesterday 3:17</p>
--	---	--